

## **Abstract 1: Puget Sound Georgia Basin International Airshed Strategy**

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In August 2002 the US Environmental Protection Agency and Environment Canada signed a statement of intent to develop a strategy for addressing air quality concerns in the shared Georgia Basin–Puget Sound (GB-PS) airshed. This transboundary collaborative was strengthened in June of 2003 when the Minister of Environment Canada and the Administrator of the US EPA announced that the GB-PS International Airshed Strategy would become one of three pilots under the Canada – US Border Air Quality Strategy. This paper describes the process and results of two years of effort by the lead agencies and their state, tribal, provincial, First Nations and local government partners. The results include a strategy and several initiatives through which the partner agencies will address the most pressing air quality problems in the airshed. The development of the strategy has been informed by several years of efforts by scientists on both sides of the border to characterize the sources and movement of air pollutants in the airshed. The GB-PS International Airshed Strategy supports the “Prevention of Significant Deterioration” program of the US EPA and the “Continuous Improvement” goals of the Canada-Wide Standards implementation process.